

ANGLICAN CHURCH DELEGATES AGREE TO ACCEPT THE POPE

June 9, 2000 (Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org) -- The following is by Dr. Ian Paisely, Moderator, Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster. It was published on May 26 by the European Institute for Protestant Studies:

International delegates of the Anglican Church worldwide have agreed that the Pope of Rome is the Head of the Church on earth. They have accepted the Roman dogma of the Pope's world primacy. They have agreed, and quote the statement of the Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission's document entitled *The Gift of Authority* which is the basis for ratification at this time:

1. The Pope is a gift of God to the world:

"The Commission's work has resulted in sufficient agreement on universal primacy as a gift to be shared, for us to propose that such a primacy could be offered and received even before our churches are in full communion. [...] It will encourage the churches in their mission. This sort of primacy will already assist the Church on earth to be the authentic Catholic koinonia in which unity does not curtail diversity, and diversity does not endanger but enhances unity. It will be an effective sign for all Christians as to how this gift of God builds up that unity for which Christ prayed." [p. 42, para. 60]

2. By enacting the Pope as universal Head of Christ's Church a ministry to the whole Church is forwarded:

"An experience of universal primacy of this kind would confirm two particular conclusions we have reached:

that Anglicans be open to and desire a recovery and re-reception under certain clear conditions of the exercise of universal primacy by the Bishop of Rome;

that Roman Catholics be open to and desire a re-reception of the exercise of primacy by the Bishop of Rome and the offering of such a ministry to the whole Church of God." [pp. 42/43, para. 62]

3. The strengthening of the web of unity between the Anglicans and Rome:

"When the real yet imperfect communion between us is made more visible, the web of unity which is woven from communion with God and reconciliation with each other is extended and strengthened." [p. 43, para. 63]

4. No turning back:

"However, there is no turning back in our journey towards full ecclesial communion." [p. 41, para. 58]

For that final union with Rome Dr. Carey has declared himself.

This is a surrender and a return to Rome and the betrayal of all that was achieved by the Reformation and all for which the Martyrs of that period sealed with their lives and blood.

The Scriptural teaching of the Protestant stalwarts is plain and unequivocal on this matter as are all the protestations, creeds and confessions of the historical Protestant Churches. The following are a sample:

ANGLICAN

The first Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, at his trial declared:

"And forasmuch as my hand offended, writing contrary to my heart, my hand shall first be punished therefor; for, may I come to the fire, it shall first be burned; and as for the Pope, I refuse him as Christ's enemy, and Antichrist, with all his false doctrines." On uttering this, Cranmer was pulled down from the stage and led to the fire."

Bishop Ridley, Bishop of London who was burnt under Queen Mary, declared:

"The See of Rome is the seat of Satan, and the bishop of the same, that maintaineth the abominations thereof, is Antichrist himself indeed: and for the same causes the See at this day is the same that St. John calls, in his Revelation, Babylon, or the whole of Babylon, and spiritual Sodom and Egypt, the mother of fornications and abominations on earth."

LUTHERAN

Martin Luther published two tracts in answer to the Bull of the Pope, one of which was entitled Martin Luther against the Execrable Bull of Antichrist. In its conclusion he admonishes the Pope and his Cardinals no longer to persevere in madness, "no longer to act the undoubted part of the Antichrist of the Scriptures".

PRESBYTERIAN

The Westminster Confession of Faith states: "There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ: nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but is that Antichrist, that man of sin, and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the church against Christ, and all that is called God."

BAPTIST

The London and Philadelphia Confession of Faith states: "The Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, in Whom, by the appointment of the Father, all power for the calling, institution, order, or government of the Church is invested in a supreme and sovereign manner; neither can the Pope of Rome, in any sense, be head thereof, but is no other than Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God: whom the Lord shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."

CONGREGATIONAL

The Savoy Confession states: "There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ; nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but it [he] is that Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God, whom the Lord shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."

THE TRANSLATORS OF THE AUTHORISED VERSION (KJV)

The translators of our Bible in 1611, in their Preface, declare that in writing in defence of the Truth, which "had given such a blow unto that Man of Sin as will not be healed", in common with the Reformers, they regarded the dynasty of Popes as the Antichrist of Scripture.

THE CLAIMS OF THE PAPACY

These are best put by Cardinal Manning in the Pope's name: "In Christ's right I am Sovereign. I acknowledge no civil superior: I am the subject of no Prince, and I claim to be the supreme judge on earth, the director of the consciences of men; of the peasant that tills the field and the Prince that sits on the Throne: of the household that sits in the shade of privacy and the legislator that makes laws for the kingdom. I am the last sole supreme judge on earth of what is right and wrong."

THE UNALTERABLE AIM OF THE PAPACY

Cardinal Heenan, former Archbishop of Westminster, declared: "Ecumenism does not mean pretending that all denominations are equally true; it does not mean that the [Roman] Catholic Church has nothing more than other churches. The ultimate object of ecumenism is to unite all Christians under the Vicar of Christ--the Pope."

To that end the meeting in Toronto, Canada, is directed.

The arrogant titles which the Popes of Rome have taken to themselves, the outrageous dogmas they have promulgated, the abominable practices they have engaged in, the bloody deeds they have furthered, the filthy outcome of their priestly so-called celibacy, and their usurping of the Throne of the Lord Jesus, we totally condemn and reject.

In the name of the God of truth Who will not give His glory to another, we decry the so-called 'Holy Father' of Rome as a usurper. Christ commanded us to call no man father. Matthew 23:9 states: "And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven."

In the name of our blessed Lord Jesus we totally abominate the act of the Pope to seek to rob our Lord of His undivided Glory. Our loyalty is to no Pope of Rome but to the Son of God alone. Where Christ is there can be no Pope and where the Pope is Christ cannot be. We are pledged to the true Christ. (Philippians 2:9-10)

The Pope's claim to Christ's throne makes him the Antichrist.